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Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 047005

70
ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 H-02 L-03 NSC-05 SS-15 PRS-01 SSO-00

NSCE-00 /039 R

DRAFTED BY EUR/WE:EJBEIGEL:VE
APPROVED BY EUR/WE:REBARBOUR
L - MR. LEIGH
EUR - MR. HARTMAN
H - MR. NELSON
---------- 023774
O 262114Z FEB 76
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY ROME IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, EIND, IT, US

SUBJECT: TEXT OF MEMORANDUM ON LOCKHEED DOCUMENTS

REF: STATE 45760

FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF UNCLASSIFIED MEMORANDUM, DATED FEBRUARY 25, HANDED TO THE ITALIAN AMBASSADOR BY ASSISTANT SECRETARY HARTMAN:

1. QUOTE PENDING A FORMAL REPLY TO THE ITALIAN AMBASSADOR'S AIDE-MEMOIRE OF FEBRUARY 20 REQUESTING CERTAIN DOCUMENTS RELATING TO LOCKHEED CORPORATION OPERATIONS IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES, BUT NOT INCLUDED AMONG THOSE MADE PUBLIC BY THE SENATE SUBCOMMITTEE ON MULTINATIONAL CORPORATIONS, THE AMBASSADOR SHOULD KNOW THAT THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH IS STUDYING POSSIBLE ARRANGEMENTS WHEREBY THE APPROPRIATE DEPARTMENTS OF THIS GOVERNMENT AND INTERESTED FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS MAY BE ABLE TO OBTAIN OFFICIALLY THE DOCUMENTATION IN THE HANDS OF
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THE SENATE SUBCOMMITTEE. THE AMBASSADOR WILL BE KEPT IN-

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FORMED ON THIS MATTER. MEANWHILE THE FOLLOWING BACKGROUND MAY BE OF INTEREST WITH REGARD TO THE DOCUMENTS THAT HAVE ALREADY BEEN RELEASED.

2. QUOTE THE SUBCOMMITTEE BEGAN ITS HEARINGS ON "POLITICAL CONTRIBUTIONS TO FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS" BY THE LOCKHEED CORPORATION ON SEPTEMBER 12, 1975. THE PUBLISHED RECORD SHOWS THAT THE CHAIRMAN OF THE SUBCOMMITTEE, SENATOR CHURCH, BEGAN BY RELEASING TO THE PRESS COPIES OF CERTAIN COMPANY DOCUMENTS RELATING TO LOCKHEED SALES IN VARIOUS COUNTRIES. HE STATED THAT THE DOCUMENTS "HAVE BEEN RE-LEASED TO PROVIDE A REPRESENTATIVE SAMPLE OF WHAT IS, BY THE COMPANY'S OWN ADMISSION, A WORLDWIDE PRACTICE OF PAY-ING KICKBACKS TO FOREIGN OFFICIALS TO PROMOTE SALES."

3. QUOTE THE SECOND STAGE OF THE SUBCOMMITTEE HEARINGS ON THE LOCKHEED CORPORATION BEGAN ON FEBRUARY 2, AND OPEN HEARINGS BEGAN ON FEBRUARY 4, 1976, AT WHICH TIME THE SUB-COMMITTEE RELEASED A REPRESENTATIVE SAMPLE OF DOCUMENTS RELATING TO LOCKHEED SALES IN ITALY, AMONG OTHER COUNTRIES. THIS MATERIAL INCLUDED A REPRESENTATIVE SAMPLE OF 43 PAGES OF LOCKHEED COMPANY DOCUMENTS REGARDING SALES OF C-130 AIRCRAFT TO ITALY. THE DOCUMENTATION WAS APPARENTLY SELECTED FROM ALL THOSE IN THE POSSESSION OF THE LOCKHEED CORPORATION AT ITS HEADQUARTERS IN CALIFORNIA, AND WAS PROVIDED TO THE SUBCOMMITTEE BY THE LEGAL REPRESENTATIVE OF LOCKHEED IN WASHINGTON. THE MATERIAL IS REFERRED TO IN THE AIDE-MEMOIRE AS "THE REPORT" OF THE SUBCOMMITTEE, BUT IS IN FACT ONLY A SAMPLING OF LOCKHEED COMPANY DOCUMENTS. THE SUBCOMMITTEE'S REPORT WILL PRESUMABLY NOT BE READY FOR RELEASE UNTIL ALL HEARINGS HAVE BEEN CONCLUDED. ONE OF THE DOCUMENTS MADE PUBLIC ON FEBRUARY 4, FOR EXAMPLE, IS AN INTERNAL COMPANY MEMORANDUM OF 1972 WHICH LISTS SOME TWENTY OTHER DOCUMENTS IN THE C-130 DOSSIER, BUT ONLY THIRTEEN OF THEM ARE INCLUDED AMONG THE 43 PAGES RELEASED BY THE SUBCOMMITTEE UNDER A COVER SHEET ENTITLED "POLITICAL PAYMENTS IN ITALY".

4. QUOTE THE DOCUMENTATION RELEASED TO THE PRESS BY THE SUBCOMMITTEE TOTALS 43 PAGES CONSISTING OF TWENTY-ONE
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DOCUMENTS, THREE OF WHICH ARE INTERNAL COMPANY MEMORANDA, EIGHT RELATE TO AN AGREEMENT WITH AND PAYMENTS TO THE STUDIO LEGALE LEFEBVRE, FOUR ARE LETTERS TO AND FROM THE COMPONENTI ELETTRONICI, AND SIX ARE LETTERS TO AND FROM THE TEMPORATE ZONE RESEARCH FOUNDATION IN PANAMA. THE LEGAL REPRESENTATIVES OF LOCKHEED HAVE SAID THAT THE NAMES OF CERTAIN INDIVIDUALS MENTIONED IN THESE DOCUMENTS WERE COVERED BY TAPE AS WERE CERTAIN WORDS OR ANNOTATIONS,

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BEFORE XEROX COPIES WERE DELIVERED TO THE SUBCOMMITTEE.

5. QUOTE THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT DOES NOT CONDONE ILLEGAL ACTIVITIES BY AMERICAN BUSINESS AND INDUSTRIAL FIRMS ABROAD; ON THE CONTRARY, IT CONDEMNS SUCH ACTIONS IN THE STRONGEST TERMS. UNQUOTE. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DOCUMENTS, BRIBERY, AEROSPACE INDUSTRY, TEXT, US CONGRESSIONAL HEARINGS, DIPLOMATIC NOTES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 26 FEB 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976STATE047005
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: EJBEIGEL:VE
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760073-0001
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t1976028/aaaaagmx.tel
Line Count: 121
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 STATE 45760
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 11 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <11 MAY 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <07 JUL 2004 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

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US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TEXT OF MEMORANDUM ON LOCKHEED DOCUMENTS
TAGS: PINT, EIND, IT, US, LOCKHEED
To: ROME
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006

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